

SENATOR SCHMIT: Surely, Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABOUD: Senator Schmit, I realize the committee has spent a great deal of time on this particular bill. Is it your belief that if the committee...if this bill was referred back to the Public Works Committee, that you could have a hearing possibly this week or the early part of next week?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Senator Abboud, I would just like to say there are three alternatives, as I see, for this Legislature to adopt in this instance, if I may take your time. I hope you will allow me. (Gavel). Number one, number one, rerefer the bill to the committee. Number two, go through the continual painstaking steps that we are going and eventually when we have done all that, we might possibly adopt the amendment which I have prepared which would strip this bill and place the contents of 1119, which was the committee bill. Now, unfortunately, it sometimes happen when you open the gate, as Senator Harris will tell you, something escapes outside that should not be allowed to escape and that is what happened with 835. But it did not get here with my vote. You could do that. You could adopt the amendment that I have prepared. Or, number three, you might even prevail upon the good intentions of our very benevolent Speaker and ask him to put 1119 up for debate. I think you will like the bill a little better than you like this one. Anyone of those three. I don't...I think if the bill went back to the committee, 1119 may come up before that would happen again.

PRESIDENT: You have three minutes left.

SENATOR ABOUD: Okay. Senator Schmit, is it your feeling then, would you prefer to have this bill referred back to your committee at this time then?

SENATOR SCHMIT: I will tell you what, if I had my choice, which I very rarely have around here, I would suggest that we amend LB 835 with 1119, as I have it prepared, and then we all get what we want. Senator DeCamp gets 835 and the consumers, the constituencies get a good regulatory bill.

SENATOR ABOUD: Thank you. I do have some problems with the amount of amending that has been taking place on the floor on this particular bill, as I am sure most of you do